

# JEAN - MICHEL BASQUIAT



Tashen, 1980



Untitled (Diptych), 1982

# ABOUT JEAN – MICHEL BASQUIAT

- Born December 22, 1960 in Brooklyn, NY to a Haitian father and a Brooklyn-born Puerto Rican mother.
- From a young age Basquiat had an affinity for drawing and sketching, especially cartoon-like drawings and characters.
- Basquiat first gained attention by spray painting aphorisms on Manhattan subways in the late 1970's.
- In earlier works, he was known for using a crown motif, which was his way of celebrating black people as majestic royalty, or deeming them as saints.
- His work and style received critical acclaim for the fusion of words, symbols, stick figures and animals.
- His rise coincided with the emergence of a new art style, Neo-Expressionism.



# SUPPLIES:

- Crayons or oil pastels.
- A black or grey pencil for sketching.
- A large sheet of paper.
- Acrylic /craft paint and brushes.
- White pastel.



# INSTRUCTIONS:

- Take out your large sheet of paper and your crayons/oil pastels.
- For your background:
  - Using more than one color scribble crayon/oil pastel loosely on different parts of your paper.
  - Brush, blend and scrub paint over the crayon/oil pastels and let dry.
- Once dry, use paint or oil pastels to add a figure on top of your background design. It should not be perfect!
- Fill in more areas around your figure with color, but don't forget to leave some areas untouched.
- Next, add a three point crown above your figure's head.
- Finishing touches:
  - Use a white pastel or crayon to trace over the outline of your figure loosely.
  - Add some free elements to your creation! You can add anatomy, symbols, words or animals.